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DEVELOPMENT OF 1946 PRODUCTION GOALS

Suggestions to Commodity Committees

Development of production goals for 1946 will make the fifth year in which goals have been established for all major commodities. The establishment of agricultural goals and the development of programs to assist in their achievement has been the major instrument in building production programs to turn out the volume and kinds of food, fiber, and oils most needed in the war effort.

The job of Commodity Committees will be even greater this year. In the first years of goals work emphasis was on all-out production with goals considered as minimums. Goals must now be on a more selective basis to meet changing demand conditions if serious shortages on the one hand and marketing difficulties on the other are to be avoided.

Members of Commodity Committees have been selected on the basis of their ability to contribute to the development of a constructive program for the commodity under consideration. The fact that all interested bureaus and agencies are represented on the various committees makes possible coordinated development of recommendations, reflecting the best information and judgment of the Department as a whole.

In developing the production goal report for 1946, the committee should give careful consideration to the following topics; and should include a short summary on each, along with the tables and tabular material:

- (1) Requirements
- (2) Production capacity
- (3) Suggested goal
- (4) Labor and production supplies
- (5) Marketing facilities
- (6) Prices (ceiling and support prices)
- (7) Recommendations for goal achievement

Basic information on requirements is being summarized by the Requirements and Allocations Staff. These requirements will be analyzed by the Goals Review Committee in conference with the claimants. A member of the R&AC Staff will serve on each Commodity Committee to make any further interpretations which are necessary.

The production capacity study is being carried on for the fifth year in cooperation with State agricultural colleges. Individual State reports giving suggested levels of production are due August 1 and a national summary of State reports by September 1. This report attempts to ascertain potential agricultural production in view of requirements and availability of production and marketing facilities, to determine the rapidity of use of the maximum productive capacity, and to furnish a basis for distributing production goals according to the best use of resources in each region.

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Tables 1 and 2 giving statistical data on acreage, yield, and production by States for 1937-41, and 1942 through 1945 indicated provide background data for use of the Committee in arriving at suggested goals. Table 3 gives the outline for presenting the suggested goals for the commodity. A "prospective balance" should be developed for this section, taking into consideration the supply with such items as production at goal levels, stocks, and imports and demand as represented by requirements.

Statements giving a forecast of the availability of labor, farm machinery, fertilizer, and other production resources will be available for use by the Commodity Committees. Goals suggested should be consistent with the availability of these resources.

Statements on adequacy of transportation, storage, containers, and processing facilities also will be available for consideration of the Commodity Committees. The goals statement should include a discussion of these marketing facilities in relation to suggested goals.

Consideration should be given to commodity returns with recommendations on ceiling prices and levels; also to methods of effectuating support prices.

Recommendations on goal achievement should include a summary of problems which may arise and action to be taken to assure achievement of the goals.

The "Time Schedule for 1946 Goals" gives the calendar of work for the different commodities.

GOALS REVIEW COMMITTEE